

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: wa5whn@juno.com (Jay D Miller)  
Subject: [281] "QRP AField" from "Towah, New Mexico".  
Message-ID: <19960921.221619.4567.1.wa5whn@juno.com>

After Action Report from "Towah, New Mexico", aka Torreon, New Mexico.

Since there are not many Lighthouses & Towers in New Mexico, we had decided to operate from a small town, by the name of "Tower", translated into New England parlese "Towah". K8BI-Gary & I had headed up to the site, Friday afternoon (Sept. 20th). After we had (KC5DT, K8BI & I) erected the 3 element beam, we had sat down to some great home made "posole" (pork roast, hominey, chili, plus a secret formula) cooked by KC5DT's YL. As we had watched how really bright the half moon was, and the Milky Way, we had seen the reentry of a meteorite, that appeared to explode over towards (west) Capilla Peak (Manzano Mountains), around 0400 UTC, 21, Sept.. Hint: A Comet (Hale-Bopp) is fast approaching, find a dark sky site to view it.

Sept. 21, 1996, AB50U & NA5N had driven up from Socorro, New Mexico. N5ZGT had driven out from Albuquerque. We were set up 35.4 miles SE of Albuquerque, on the east slope of the Manzano Mountains @ an altitude of 7,200 feet asl. NN9K was our first contact, on 20 cw. NA5N had worked a Ham in France on 20 cw, plus numerous People, who we have met either here, on the QRP-L, or in person. Next, AB50U & NA5N & I had erected a Windom antenna for 40 meters. First contact, on 40 cw around 2 PM MDT, was AA7QY. Interesting, Paul & Tim said that their first contact, on 40 meters (Paul & Tim, have You both been calling the psychic hotline again ?) would be AA7QY. It was great to run into K5F0, AB7PF, plus a multitude of others. Brian, N5ZGT was real sick, but he wanted to operate. BTW, Brian is the New Youth Column Writer for "Worldradio", so watch for his first column, Jan., '97. 20 meters had QRN when we had first started, but about an hour later, the activity had picked up. The QRP+ had a bit of a chirp, but a quick battery check had fixed that. (something about the regulator not liking voltages below 13.0 VDC). 40 cw was great. Paul had his NW8040 on line. As a whole, other than the QRN, there was a light breeze, but it was a very quiet weekend, except for the horses rubbing against K8BI's camper, and waking him up @ 0200 AM on Sat., several times ;)

I think there were over 63+ contacts in a 6 hour run. NA5N has the log & dupe sheets. Photos will follow. The humor, quips & comraderee were great. My thanks to Tim-AB50U, Wynn-KC5DT & Joy (His VYL, Very\_Young\_Lady), Gary-K8BI & Brian-N5ZGT for making this a great Saturday. Also, thanks to the New England QRP Club, and to my former co-Worker Chet Bowles, AA1EX, for making this event happen.

So, on to the 4th weekend in April, 1997, for the "NorCal QRP To The Field", where the theme will be " (alledged) UFO crash sites & other strange sites". Hmmm, Wash. DC counts (Anyone remember 1952 ?) along

with the entire State of California ;) We have all winter to prepare.  
Next year is the 50th anniversary of the alledged "UFO Crash near  
Roswell, New Mexico (Corona)". A saucer enclosure for the Sierra; would  
N6KR & QRP Bob call it the "Corona" ? ;) A direct alpha wave to cw  
converter is the next option ;) Can't wait for my Sept. issue of  
"QRPP" to arrive.

Muchos Gracious...Jay, WA5WHN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: n5zgt@swcp.com (Brian Mileschosky)  
Subject: [302] ==> WANT: HyGain Tape Antenna <==  
Message-ID: <199609221721.LAA19026@kitsune.swcp.com>

Hello Everybody,

I have posted this message on this group before, and had no luck. Maybe  
this last post will do it for me!

I am looking for a HyGain tape measure dipole. I know there has been a  
lot of discussion about them here in the past, so maybe this is the place to  
find one.

If you, or anybody you know, has one for sale, PLEASE E-Mail me at  
n5zgt@swcp.com and I will be MORE than happy to take it off your hands! I  
hope to hear from somebody soon. Thanks!

72,

Brian, N5ZGT

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Boy Scouts of America	Amateur Radio - N5ZGT
Eagle Scout - 1996	ARRL QRP: NorCal# 1700 QRP-L# 580
JASM - Troop 41	Author of Worldradio's "Youth Forum" Column
Albuquerque, N.M.	Packet: N5ZGT @ KC5IZT.ALBQ.NM.USA.NA
O.A. Lodge 66 <-W-W-W-<<	Internet: n5zgt@swcp.com

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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Jerry Parker <jparker@fix.net>  
Subject: [298] Dan's Small Parts  
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960722155915.00c23858@fix.net>

Dan's has a new catalog online. In this catalog he has included many more items

and has reduced prices on several.

Dan is also offering a larger variety of kits, some at reduced prices.

Check it out.

<http://www.fix.net/dans.html>

72, Jerry...K

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: WD6BOR@aol.com  
Subject: [314] Data Book for Homebrewers...thanks!  
Message-ID: <960922213754\_527776223@emout01.mail.aol.com>

Dear Paul and Rich,

I've been meaning to post a note since receiving my copy of the Data Book thanking both of you for making this available to the QRP and homebrewing community. I've decided to post this thank you note to the QRP-L incase there are some new arrivals who are wondering which books to buy to start their library.

When asked, I've always started by recommending the ARRL Handbook as the basis for any amateur radio or general electronics library. For homebrewers, it has always been Solid State Design for the Radio Amateur by Doug DeMaw, W1FB, and Wes Hayward, W7ZOI, as well as the other fine QRP books Doug has edited. Now, right up on top of the list is the Data Book. I especially appreciate the four part discussion about how transceivers work using several recent popular QRP radio designs as examples. I am no electronic engineer so I really benefitted from the simple discussion on impedance matching and signal flow in real life examples. I might not be able to design my own radio yet, but I now feel more confident in my understanding.

So thank you both, Paul and Rich. I'm looking forward to meeting you at Pacificon this October. Be prepared to answer lots of questions.

Darrel, WD6BOR

The "Electronic Data Book for Homebrewers and QRPers" is available from:  
5 Watt Press  
740 Galena Street

Aurora, CO 80010-3922

Cost is \$23 postpaid. The other books are available from the ARRL.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Dick Schneider <74602.3317@CompuServe.COM>  
Subject: [289] FS: Kenwood TS 140S & Pwr Sup  
Message-ID: <960922114615\_74602.3317\_EHH64-1@CompuServe.COM>

FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS 140S STATION

KENWOOD TS 140S HF TRANSCEIVER \$550 PLUS SHIPPING  
160-10 Meters. 100 WATTS. CW/SSB/AM/FM. EASY QRP OPERATION. EXCELLENT  
CONDITION.

KENWOOD PS-430 MATCHING POWER SUPPLY. \$125 PLUS SHIPPING  
20 A. HAS 12-VOLT OUTPUT FOR STATION ACCESSORIES.

Please E-mail reply to 74602.3317@COMPUSERVE.COM

72/73 Dick/AB0CD

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: lbbarley@feist.com (Bruce Barley)  
Subject: [284] Impedance Bubbles  
Message-ID: <199609220508.AAA11297@wichita.fn.net>

When building into small enclosures (Altoids, Tuna Tin II, etc.), how much  
of an impedance bubble is presented to a 50 ohm coax by using a standard RCA  
type connector in place of the much larger PL259/S0259 which as I understand  
it, is designated a 50 ohm connector?

AT QRPP power levels, is this bubble going to cause a loss of output signal  
sufficient to be a concern? How about the PL259/RCA adaptor? Similar results?

What is the output transistor going to see looking into this situation?  
Frequently, there will be a very short piece of RG174 from the circuit board  
to the RCA type connector and RG174 or other 50 ohm coax from that connector  
to either a match box or straight to an antenna. Typically what would be  
the most suitable type of equipment to check this out? Has anyone  
previously checked? Or is this just a minor nitnoy?

Bruce Barley KB0PZD ex:WD0HRQ  
lbbarley@feist.com qpr-1 #69

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>  
Subject: [282] NE QRP AFIELD  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.90.960921211208.8895B-1000000@vortex.sage.dri.edu>

Hi All,

Just wanted to let everyone know that condx here were less  
than good. Very loud QRN and lots of weak sigs.

But there were many that I did get a chance to hear and work.

Wound up with 38 Q's and 18 states.

But trying the computer logging was keeping me busy anyway! What a blast  
that was. Goal is to get good with it and use it on a laptop doing the  
whole thing from batteries!

Congratulations to the NE QRP gang and all the stations out there  
that worked so hard.

(Even worked that elusive K5F0!)

cul,

73, Ron,

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....  
....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Washoe Lake, Nevada....  
....QRP-L #17...ARS #49...NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)  
Subject: [317] NE Test  
Message-ID: <199609230258.CAA09646@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Well after my worst flight ever on American Airlines (coming back from MD) it was nice to get some rest and wake up to a clear beautiful day for the NE big event. AA put me in the smallest seat on an MD-80 one row in front of the emergency exit and the lady in the seat in front of me bruised both my knees on takeoff when she suddenly moved her seat back to the reclining position. The paperwork begins. My knees still hurt.

I packed up the TenTec Argosy II-D (it sits in the closet the rest of the year), the paddle, a MFJ Grandmaster keyer, assorted cables, the cooler, the lawn chairs, and other misc items including log books and pens, and loaded them into the car and off to North Dallas area to the field. No lighthouse, but hey it's an event to have fun.

I get there and Wayne, W5W0, and Smitty, NA5K, are already at the site just after 9a.m. Smitty has the Gates 25Ahr battery pack and as it turns out the R/S molex fits the one I have on the power switch/circuit breaker combo. We are starting out pretty good already.

We combine 120' of #18 stranded wire for a long wire in the trees at the park. This combo only up 15' or so, but hey these are simulated emergency conditions with no poles, stakes, or fancy setup equipment. Using the TenTec and MFJ-941C (I actually took this thing off the long wire at home) and misc stuff at 1455Z got on 20M and called CQ. First shot outta the starting gate got a N7 in Pittsburgh PA. I have witnesses. Power output at 2W. We're ready to rock and roll.

Smitty has to leave to go work. Now there is dedication to come out and work to set up a FD site and then leave for the office. As he said it is the fun part.

Bob Kmak, KC5RAS, brought his CMOS III and I programmed it for the CQ. We sent the exchange by hand. Good practice for the group.

Ops were KC5RAS, K5F0, and N50SG.

Haven't figured the point total yet but we got 33 Q's and 18 states in 5 Hours of operation.

Lot's of guys saying Hi Chuck when I wasn't at the key. :-) I was chilled out for this one and just relaxed. It was just fun to gab and enjoy the nice weather. Phyllis came up and took me to lunch.

#### Highlights:

1. No wind. Paul, NA5N, in passing said the same thing in NM. :-)
2. Clear Sky.
3. We did have the keyer twice double stroke the #1 button, so Doug may have gotten us when it was not behaving correctly. This resulted in consecutive CQs being sent without a pause. My apologies to

all that were affected. Didn't happen for very long.

4. We did hear the string of dits on 20M. Not QRP. Someone must have had a book or something push against the paddle while they went off to mow the yard. Not the first time and not the last time that has happened.
5. Digital Droid with QRO parked on 14.058MHz and 060. I moved below the county hunter net but no one was tuning that low. Let's agree to move to 14.040 to 14.050 next test. We all have VFOs that we can use.   
\*\*Let's not get into a thread on this topic.\*\* I know that it is giving ground and all that, but it may have to be considered if the ARRL doesn't get us a band plan that all are paying attention to.
6. 16 Qs on 20M and 17 Qs on 40M. In fact, 40M was doing pretty good for daytime IMHO.
7. Worked 3 1W or milliwatt stations. Now they're hooked. Good job guys.
8. QSB was pretty bad on 20M after noon local time.
9. QSLs to all.
10. Bringing the headphones next time to cut down on QRM from eyeball QSOs. :-)

Looking forward to the UFO event for the NorCal event in April. See ya on for the ARCI contest next month and in CA for Pacificon. Got the tickets on Delta to Oakland. :-)

dit dit de NE#222

SIG

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) 49/49/50 adams@sgi.com

EMPS QS0s=0 STATES(w/c)=0/0 DX=0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996

From: Steve Slavsky <sslavsky@CapAccess.org>

Subject: [318] Portable Power Source

Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91-FP.960922225452.13205B-100000@cap1.capaccess.org>

After a lot of attempts to get my Wal Mart MVP battery above 12.2 volts, I gave up and returned the thing. The next day, I stopped in a brand new, humongous Target, and, guess what - in the camping section they have Great Land Power Sources. Very similar to the MVP, but instead of a barrel connector for output, they have 2 cigarette lighter receptacles, one for 12 volts and one for 3, 6, 9 or 12 volts - controlled by a slide switch. Even better, it comes with DC charging cord AND a 15 volt wall wart. After 12 hours charging, it runs about 12.95 volts and hangs there. You could hear the acid bubbling a bit at the end of the charge cycle, but it seems to give plenty of power. Price - reduced to \$19.99. A bit more than the Wal Mart one, but it works. So, if you need one, take a trek to Target. BTW, it has 2 6 volt, 4 ah sealed lead acid cells

- still can't figure out if these are gel cells, but as long as it works, I'm happy.

Now to see how long I can run the Explorer II off it.

73/72,

Steve, N4EUK

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Marshall Emm <75230.1405@compuserve.com>  
Subject: [283] QRP A-field  
Message-ID: <960922045035\_75230.1405\_HHB46-1@CompuServe.COM>

It was a very pleasant afternoon in Daniels Park, south of Denver. CQC decided to make it an informal "open house" operation, and two of us (Dick, AB0CD) set up stations using our own calls. We used our "normal" mobile setups, an FT757GX2 and an IC706, both with Hustler antennas, and did pretty well despite somewhat discouraging band conditions for a large part of the afternoon. I think between us we racked up about 60 QSOs on 20 and 40.

We had a number of visitors and "relief ops," including Samson the QRP dog, but he didn't actually get on, just ran around keeping an eye on things.

It was great to see so many guys on and it was a very pleasant afternoon in pleasant surroundings. Now I have to ask myself what I'm doing in front of the computer again [g].

73  
Marshall  
AA0XI

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Bob Marsh <bmarsh@hicom.net>  
Subject: [292] QRP Afield  
Message-ID: <32454BA0.367@hicom.net>



Hi Everyone,

What a weekend! I had originally planned to do the QRP Afield with the NJ-QRP Club, but had to nix that to do something else for a family member. I figured I'd set up at a local park and operate for a few hours later in the day. (even built a lightweight dipole!). Saturday morning found me with a nasty head cold, and I wound up spending most of the day in bed.

I did manage to get on the air for a grand total of maybe 45 minutes, though, and worked a few stations:

KF2HC - NJ (no big deal, he lives about a quarter mile away)  
K8IDN - OH  
WA4DOV - NC  
N40LN - GA (He was a challenge - I had to crank it up to 5 watts  
to get him)

I was using my Argosy and SW-40 from the shack. There didn't seem to be a lot of activity on any band except 40. Of course, I wasn't on all that long either.

I did enjoy myself in spite of being sick. This was my first QRP contest, and only the second contest I've worked. I'm looking forward to the next one.

72/73 (whatever) de Bob/KB2SGM

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\*\*\*\*\*  
Bob Marsh - KB2SGM <bmarsh@hicom.net> NJ-QRP #39 QRP-L #724.  
CW, QRP, Homebrew & Boatanchors - What a Mix  
"Jeez, is it REALLY supposed to do that?"  
\*\*\*\*\*

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: ji3m@scubed.com (James R. Duffey)  
Subject: [306] QRP Afield  
Message-ID: <v02130500ae6b5780b6ee@[192.31.66.229]>

I worked the QRP afield from my home location, although on battery power. I was on 3 hours, 33 contacts, 17 multipliers. I spent the first hour up on the roof repairing the antenna which had broken, turning my ladder line fed delta loop into a W3EDP of sorts. Its a delta loop again. I worked from 1700Z to 1800Z, and again from 2200Z-2400Z. The hole was due to family commitments.

20 and 40 were both nice, but 20, as in many QRP outings seemed

underutilized, particularly during the last hour. There was virtually no QRN and a S-1 or less noise level on both bands at my QTH. I had listened on 15 M at 1530 and heard some CW, so I thought it would open. It did not despite me calling CQ several times during the contest. I would, on occasion, hear some weak back scatter on 15M, but no QSOs. Did anybody make 15 M contacts?

I did not hear the Torreon bunch and they were just 20 miles or so south of me. The path is not strictly line of site as it is mountainous terrain, but I had hoped to snag a NM and talk to Paul and his operators. I had worked N1IRZ on their expedition to Baldy a year ago April so I thought it was doable.

The best DX was CT on 20. Worked all over the west on 40 including MT and NV, but no NM. Hope everybody had a good time. Next year I will try going afield. - Duffey KK6MC

James R. Duffey  
Principal Scientist  
Maxwell Technologies Incorporated/Federal Division  
Suite 300  
2501 Yale Blvd SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87106

(505) 764-3143  
(505) 843-7995 (FAX)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: BOB KELLOGG <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>  
Subject: [312] QRP Afield  
Message-ID: <199609230112.VAA18806@mh004.infi.net>

What a great day!

Of course, it helps to be ignorant. Since I've never worked a contest during a period of high sunspot activity, propagation was great saturday!!

We Knightlites tried to get up a group to go to a nearby park, but it just didn't work. I didn't plan to participate until the last minute. (Ellen's project for me fell through with!!)

So, I set up in my back yard with a 4ah gel cell and threw up the W3EDP wire antenna. Started about 1630Z on 20 meters. What a ball! I'm pretty slow, and was working guys nearly as fast I could! Worked 18 states from Mo and

Mn west to Ca, including some toughies like Wy (thanks to AE0Q) and Mt. Worked the New Mexico tower, NA5N, lots of guys from this list, including K5FOs group.

About 1845Z switched to 40M and again, there was plenty of action. It was noisy, and there were QRO stations hanging around 7.040 (so, what's new?). First station worked was WB3GCK in De. Worked another 14 states and quit after just over 4 hours on the air. My daughter was visiting, and I figured 4 hrs was about the limit of female understanding. Hated to leave, though, -- quit while going strong! 58 QSOs and 32 states.

Guys, the W3EDP antenna works. It's just an 85' wire up in a tree as best you can get it, and a 17' counterpoise connected to the ground terminal of your tuner. (Don't use the counterpoise on 40M)

A great afternoon.

Many thanks to NE QRP and the guys who put this together and publicised it.

CUL,  
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC  
Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Peter Beedlow <nn9k@worldnet.att.net>  
Subject: [313] QRP Afield  
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960922171242.37779fee@postoffice.worldnet.att.net>

Finally a day to play radio. Looks like 86 Q's and 33 multipliers. Most Q's on 40 meters but will have to look at the printout to determine the ratio. Only operated on 20 and 40 though. Heard nada on 15 or 80 meter QRP frequencies.

Had a good portable operating location and things really played well, except for my logging computer. It's an old 8088, that's too dumb to mess up too badly. I've used it many times before with lead acid battery power but this time it decided to gain about 7 minutes each hour. So every hour I'd reset the time and have some coffee.....

Equipment used:

Rig was my old standby Icom 735, with a Heath wattmeter and MFJ tuner. Antenna was a dipole with about 70 feet of wire on each leg, fed with 450 ohm ladder line. Center sagged to about 40 feet. Miscellaneous stuff included a CMOS II keyer, Bencher paddles, granola bars, thermos of coffee

and a van to operate out of.

Contest logging program used was NA. It does contain a contest template for the QRP ARCI contest which is a very similar format to this contest. And there is a template editor that will let you create your own template or edit one of the existing ones. I use that program for everything from Sweepstakes to my VHF contesting. My non-contest logging program imports data from NA very nicely thus saving me a lot of hassle in maintaining my logs and doing QSL cards. And NA will run on about any Intel compatible machine.

So all in all a good day, weather cooperated, there was activity on the bands and a good time was had by all (I hope).

Anyone happen to know if electronic log submission is permitted??

72,

Pete, NN9K

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Ken Newman N2CQ <103464.1355@compuserve.com>  
Subject: [319] QRP Afield  
Message-ID: <960923034150\_103464.1355\_IHI53-3@CompuServe.COM>

\*\* QRP AFIELD \*\*

Call used: N2CQ  
Location: NJ

Entry Class: Multi Op, Single Xmit

Band	QSOs	Pts	QTH	DX
80	0	0	0	0
40	30	116	15	0
20	26	104	19	0
15	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0

-----  
Total      56    220    31\*    0\*  
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Score: 6820  
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Club Participation: NJ QRP Club (SOUTHERN)

Xcvt: OHR Explorer II (40m) 2.5 Watts  
MFJ-9020 (20m) 4.0 Watts  
Power: Gel Cell 7ah 12 Volts  
Antenna: Delta Loop up 25'  
Location: Gloucester County 4H Fair Grounds - Mullica, NJ  
(Rabbit show on site for those who missed it)  
Operators: K2HPV, Herb and N2CQ, Ken + Visitor: KA3VSP, Brian  
Comments: Just a fabulous day with perfect weather (in So. Jersey).  
Lots more mults worked on 20 (thanks guys). Also delighted  
to work the famous QRP-L and NE leaders on 'Afield' like  
K5FO and W1FMR and many more. A great event an them some!

Ken Newmman #NE458  
81 Holly Drive  
Woodbury, NJ 08096

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: PDouglas12@aol.com  
Subject: [293] QRP Afield Cameo Appearance report  
Message-ID: <960922102906\_290462722@emout14.mail.aol.com>

Well, guys, the bands were not very hot were they? Between repairs to my son's MGB (electrical problems, of course) and honey-dos, I found an hour in the middle. Results, one QSO from HOME with all of my best antennas available, two Sierras and a 5 watt NW80/20 on 40--(it took the five watter to get that one lone contact). I worked Bob Kellogg, AE4IC, sent him a couple of extra "HI"s and pulled the plug. My hat's off to you folks who went out in the wilderness and worked 30. Where'd you find that many signals to work??? I heard two or three stations on, max, on each band, and none of them were in any kind of contest! Phooey. What a waste of a very nice contest. Thanks to NE QRP for the setup, but mother nature is just not being nice. Had a chat by landline with Father Bowes last night. He reported similar conditions in upstate NY. I assured him that things will be different once the sun spots start up again. Here we all sit with these new rigs with tight, adjustable filters, and no need for them. I can't find two signals close enough to try out the filtering most bands, most days. Maybe next year. But meantime I am having strange cravings with the words "Five-nine, kilowatt" running over and over in my head.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996

From: rhight@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)  
Subject: [304] QRP Afield in AZ  
Message-ID: <199609221817.LAA15273@primenet.com>

Boy, this just gets to be more fun every year.

I headed up to the Mogollon Rim country Friday hoping to get some fishing in and then work the contest. Fishing was lousy that afternoon, so I headed to the site to set up.

7500+ feet, lots of Ponderosa pines, so the G5RV was up at nearly 50 feet "aimed" to the Northeast. Operating table set up in the shade, with the HW-9, HFT-9, WM-1, OHR SCAF, CMOS-II and Bencher ready to go. For once, only one minor glitch..no power cord for the SCAF, but was able to jury rig one. Spent the evening like Jay and Co. in "Towah", and saw the meteorite as it broke up into smaller fragments. Quite a sight.

First contact Saturday at 1604Z with WA1YIA in TX, him running 5 watts and me putting out 3 on 20M. Decided to check out 40, and there was KD7S with a great 750 mw signal. Only one more on 40, so went back to 20M, which was the most productive of the day. A nice string of eleven Q's on 20, then decided to check out 40 again, and there was NA5N with a loud 2W signal. Calling CQ only netted me one reply all day, so I mostly bounced between 20 and 40 hunting...worked nearly everyone I heard.

It's always fun to work those on the list....Russ, AA7QU and his backpack activity, K5FO, NA5N, AE4IC, AA0QY (always fun to work him and not forget the number change in the call, :-)) ). I had to chase Ernie AA1IK for a while before I worked him, and we both had a number of repeats. NH is a long way from here for QRP.

Thanks to all who were out there...I hung it up at 2200Z, but managed to work 19 stations and 14 SPC's. Spend the rest of the time listening to the elk bugle and watching a black bear amble through the woods. Wish the fishing had been better.

CU all next time.

72/73 de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099   CoQRP 176   QRP-L 62   G-QRP 9081   ARCI 8946   NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU   Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Bill Acito 22-Sep-1996 1639 <acito@asdg.ENET.dec.com>  
Subject: [308] QRP Afield Report

Message-ID: <9609222127.AA20267@us1rmc.bb.dec.com>

KC1GS/M QRP

subtitled: "All that shines is not a lighthouse"

I thought I had a bad day until I read Doug's report... ouch.

Plans for Portland lighthouse fell through... too much homework to spend 2 1/2 hours each way in the car (I'm a night grad student). Revert to plan B.

Pack up the night before... QRP++, MFJ QRP tuner, Gel cell, CMOS II keyer, magmount, Hamsticks... where's the 40m Hamstick?

Early Saturday Morning: drive to HRO (Salem NH) to get another 40m Hamstick. Oooo... what's this? A NMO to mobile mount coupler... hmmm, better grounding than the mag mount. I can use my 2m truck lid mount for the Hamstick. I pick one up.

Drive to Wachusett Mountain (FN42BL) in north central Mass. 2100', 1600' vertical, public access road to the top. Crest the top of the access road and see the usual compliment of hikers, birdwatchers and day trippers. What's this? Dishes? Can you say "10GHz cumulative weekend"? It's now 1700Z; I've missed the first hour.

Set everything up, but curiosity gets the best of me, especially when I know nothing about 10 GHz and some 10GHz gurus are in your midst (AF1T, W1RIL, W1AIM, etc.) Spend the next hour learning about 10 GHz (here's some serious QRP, guys).

Go back to my Corolla. Fire up the rig... bands are quiet, way too quiet. Autek is showing some strange stuff. Call a friend in Oxford, 60 miles away via simplex, and he gives me a band comparison, "S5 signal at 7043, Bill" "Thanks, Lee. KC1GS clear" Still nothing. Looks like a bust; is the QRP+ front end gone?

Walk back over to the dishes. Quite a crowd has formed. "What are you guys doing?" They don't have time to explain; I do. For the next hour I'm the 10 GHz PR guy. Listen to Zack, KH6CP/1 call CQ from Mt Washington (NH), 130 miles away on the 2m liaison frequency. Reports 38 degrees and 70 mile-per-hour winds. It's 65 and sunny on Wachusett. Zack, how are the fingers and toes?

Rovers start to pack up; they're off to Martha's Vineyard for the second day. I go back to my car. and start to run the lines again. Check the NMO/mobile coupler... gee, that contact seems bent. Let me just pull that up a bit. Reconnect; QRP+ springs to life. It is now 2000Z.

Spend the next hour between 40 and 20, manage 6 contacts. WB3GCK, (nice signal Craig), Dennis K1LGQ, and a few stations in Texas. AE4IC, thanks for the try on your end.

Pack up and head for home. Score-wise, this was pitiful. A waste of a day? Not buy a long shot. A 10 Ghz education, a nice afternoon on top of a small mountain, a little PR work for the hobby (a troop of boy scouts were getting a real kick out of the dishes), a lesson in checking everything before you head out.

Who says you have to go to a lighthouse for illumination?

b

. . . . . - I own my own words - . . . . .  
Bill Acito  
acito@asdg.enet.dec.com  
|d|i|g|i|t|a|l| Digital Equipment Corporation Hudson, MA

KC1GS            qrp-ne qrp-l adv-rs arc1 norcal amsat-na arrl-life

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: SCN User <nwqrp@scn.org>  
Subject: [305] QRP Afield Report (long)

Howdy QRP-L and others,

QRP Afield Report (long) from KV9X (Brian) and KC7MCW (Marcia),

Western Washington State

Well, after being in rain, snow and fog for over a week, we finally made it back home. We backpacked from HWY.-2 near Steven's Pass to I-90 at Snoqualmie Pass, carrying our QRP rig in a mini-cooler the whole way. (You see, I was packing and found there was absolutely no room in my pack for radio gear ... and my pack is the largest REI sold at the time I



bought it. I had to strap the gel-cell around my neck and carry the rig and key in the cooler in my hand.)

We took the municipal bus to downtown Seattle, then caught a Greyhound for Steven's Pass. We asked the driver to be let off a few miles before the pass so we could take a short-cut -- making up for the late start at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. When we got off the bus, it was raining and foggy. We started up a logging road, took a wrong turn and walked a mile up a hill under some power lines, only to return to the main road and start over. We continued a few miles to the trail-head and passed some hikers as they were leaving. They yelled, "Go get 'em!" as they drove off. We are not sure whether they were being encouraging or sarcastic, considering the weather. We passed a few more day-hikers on our way to our first camp at about 5000 feet.

The next few days we crossed four passes, mostly in the snow and fog. We traveled about 10 miles per day and stayed between 3000 and 6000 feet, seeing a few people each day. About half of the people we saw on our trip were actually just finishing their journey from Mexico to Canada. You see, we were hiking the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), which is a National Scenic Trail. Finally on Tuesday the sun came out and we dallied a bit in the morning to dry our sleeping bags and allow some time for QRP. I made one nice rag-chew QSO with a fellow near Sonora, California. This was the first QSO with the new 20 meter dipole I made the night before we left. I brought along a cheap little CBer's SWR meter to check it out for resonance and the SWR was about 1.5:1. Our rig for this trip was a QRP+. Before leaving home, I had set the rig for 4.9 watts using a wattmeter and dummy load. We had bought a NW 80/20 for the trip, but I did not have enough time to get it built for this trip. The RST we got was 569, so I was pleased that it would work for QRP Afield coming up in a few days. The antenna was a half wave dipole made of alarm wire, Bic-lighter/epoxy insulators, and thin coaxial cable for the feed-line.

I had made up some nice signs that showed our callsigns, names, and some other radio information, but whenever we operated radio on this trip, we were the only people around. I had laser printed them on 8.5 x 11 sheets of paper and sealed them in plastic so they would be water-proofed.

We hiked for a few more days before using the radio again. Unfortunately there was absolutely no sun during this time to recharge the batteries with the solar panel we had strapped to the outside of my pack. It is one of those flexible and lightweight panels, so it was not really a hassle to carry it. It was completely foggy and snowing as we crossed several more passes and traversed a 6000 foot elevation ridgetop ... with a sheer drop on either side. Looking down into a foggy abyss of 3000 feet to the valley floor was very eerie, especially hearing the odd whistling of marmots (mountain gophers) and the "meep" of pika (small, short-eared, tail-less, rabbit-like critters). We even saw two mountain goats peering

at us through the fog. The views should have been spectacular, but we will just have to look at the pictures in the hiking guide and pretend that we had been there on a clearer day. (Now that we are home, the sky sure is blue! Right now the tent and sleeping bags are drying and the gel-cell is finally recharging.)

During this part of the trip, I pulled out the 2 meter HT and accessed a repeater's autopatch. I called my father who I felt might be worrying about us and told him we were fine. As it turned out, he had watched a news report a few days earlier about some hikers being helicoptered away from our area because of an accident. We had heard that helicopter on the day we contacted California. He was happy to hear all was going well for us, despite the weather.

Friday night we finally got to our QRP Afield location. We were at about 5300 feet near Ridge and Gravel Lakes, just north of Kendall Peak and Snoqualmie Pass. Had we been any closer to the pass, we could have heard the trucks driving over it. That day we had hiked about 11 miles in the snow and fog and had the wits scared out of us by hiking along such steep ridges, so all we wanted to do was find a camp-spot and sleep. The snow was really coming down and it was getting dark, so we threw up a tarp, put up our tent, made some vodka-cider drinks and had dinner. We were a bit cold to fall asleep right away, but eventually we did and were awake and out of bed by 8:00 am Saturday morning.

After breakfast, we talked a bit about bagging QRP Afield all together and hiking out the last 7 miles to the pass to catch the Greyhound home, but we compromised and threw up the antenna for a few QSOs to see how the band was. If 20 meters was good, we would stay, otherwise we would hike out. I had until about 12:30 to make the decision. Once again it was snowing heavily and I had to crouch under the tarp to be dry. It turned out the spot we had chosen for the tarp was right by the spot people were burying their human waste. Luckily the cold temperatures and wetness contained any possible odor. We had QSOs with KJ7NS (WA), WB5QYT (NM), and AA0XI (CO), although we heard (but could not work) WU7F, NA5N, NI0A, KC5VJU, W5VBO, W0WAB, AA0QY, N4SO, K9PV, and WB4ZKA. At 12:40, I told Marcia that it didn't look too good, so we packed up in about 1 hour and hiked down over 2000 feet over 7 miles in 3.5 hours. We saw more than ten hikers going up the trail past us, most of them to spend the night. We were glad we were leaving as there were few campsites and the area would have been a zoo. We caught the 6:00 p.m. Greyhound to Seattle, transferred to a municipal bus and were home by 8:00 p.m., just in time for our favorite sci-fi shows, "Dr. Who" and "Blake's 7" (BBC).

So, was it worth hand-carrying the QRP+ more than 70 miles in the snow and rain just to make 4 contacts? Absolutely! It was a good time and we are grateful to the four hams who pulled us out of the mud (pun intended) and made the trip a success.

Brian High, KV9X  
Sept. 22, 1996

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Byron8LCZ@aol.com  
Subject: [294] QRP AFIELD SEP 96  
Message-ID: <960922090632\_527468706@emout01.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

With a minor solar storm and thunderboomers in the Detroit area, not many contacts were made Saturday. I operated from 1600z to 1930z and made 9 Q's. We've had a rash of solar storms the last few weeks and more band noise than usual.

Worked: K5ZTY TX, W1NRG CT, WJ7H UT, AA7KF OR, W1XH MA, AC5AM LA, AA0QY CO, W7CNL ID, WA1YIA TX. I QSO'ed as far west as Oregon, as far south as Texas and Louisiana. Had to throw the big switch at 2230z when the lighting started. 20m was the only band that produced any activity, 40m was S-9 noise the entire day, nothing was heard on 15m and 10m. I didnt hear any of the regular DX QRP'ers, VO1DRB, HP1AC or any Mich QRP'ers or anyone working Mich QRP'ers. I wonder if we even had much activity, in Michigan.

My first QRP Afield (Sep 94) had a steady downpour for 1 full hour, with light rain the rest of the day, I was at a park. The second QRP Afield was overcast, rain was expected but didnt happened at my QTH, I stayed home. the third one had thunderboomers, with rain and lighting starting in the sixth hour, once again stayed home. this is starting to look like "old" Dayton weather.

I hope everyone else had better conditions.

72, Byron WA8LCZ Detroit

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Doug Hendricks <ki6ds@telis.org>  
Subject: [287] QRP Afield, KI6DS Report  
Message-ID: <3244E395.3161@telis.org>

It was a beautiful day in Dos Palos, about 85 degrees, and I set up in the school yard where I teach. It was a day that Murphy was out in full

force. You ever have one of these days?

1. When I arrive at the Water Tower park, birthday party going on for about 40 zillion 5 and 6 year olds. I survey the scene, decide that I might be getting older, but still not a fool. Quickly decide to go to alternate site.

2. I arrive at the school yard, set up the station, and then discover that the sun has come out from the clouds, and that I am in the full sun. Don't have sunscreen, and there is a table under a shade tree about 50 feet from the one that I first set up at. So, I move the whole station, Sierra, Keyer, DSP Filter, Paddles, Tuner, and MFJ 259 (more about that later). Not too bad, takes about 10 minutes, as I have to move the St. Louis Vertical, but that was the easiest part of the move.

3. Finally I get to turn on the rig. I tune the antenna, put on the headphones and tune. 40 meters, gee only one signal. Ok, try 20, and I hear 2 or 3 plus the digital guys. I try sending CQ, oops, the SWR meter is showing huge mismatch. Hmn, what is the trouble. It was matched perfectly with the MFJ. Then I look up at the St. Louis Vertical. Stupid mistake. The radiator is wrapped around itself halfway up the pole. When I moved it I forgot to plug it back into the coil. So, I was listening with just the coil and no radiator. I take down the antenna, plug in the radiator and then tune the antenna.

4. I tune the 40 meter band and decide it is dead. Only two signals, one a guy calling a net that no one is responding to, and the other, yeah, you guessed it, digital.

5. Back to 20. Hey! Signals. Who is that calling CQ? K5F0. He is weak but I give him a try, since I know that he is running .95 Watts, it ought to work, theory of reciprocity, and all of that. I wait for the end of the CQ, and call him back, I get K5F out and I hear him start to CQ again. Hmn. Boy he didn't listen long. Try it again. Same story. I decide to time how long Chuck is waiting after a CQ. 3 seconds. Something strange here. That is not how Chuck operates. (I called Chuck this evening and gave him a hard time. He swears that he wasn't operating, and I believe him. Says that he was with a group of NorTex ops. using his call. End of story, I heard but did not work K5F0.

6. Why is the best and loudest signal the digital stuff?

7. Oh, here is a signal. WA1AIM, yeah, there you are. I call and call and call. You get KI6?? KI6?? KI6??, and after a valiant effort, give up. I don't blame you. You gave it a good try. QSB is terrible. Decide to go check 40 again.

8. Finally on 40 I make a contact. It is with a QRO station in

Washington and he is weak, weak and weaker. Good op though. He pulled me right through. Smile on my face. A beautiful day. I am having fun playing radio.

9. Look up and see 3 carloads of my students pile out of their cars. Uh oh, looks like a touch football game is scheduled for right where I have the antenna. I decide that enough is enough, and shut down. I tear down the station and head for the pickup.

10. Remember the MFJ 259? Well, I dropped it trying to carry an armload of gear. Stupid move on my part. Nothing is harmed, but I am not pleased. I bend over, pick up the MFJ, and then hit my bald head on the corner of the door on my pickup camper shell. Head wounds bleed profusely.

11. I drive home, bloodied but happy. JoAnne is washing her car when I drive up. How was the contest is her question as she surveys the blood on my head. Well, dear, I didn't win, but it was fun. She shakes her head and I hear her muttering about sure didn't look like fun to her.

12. KI6DS Score: Worked 1 station 1 State. Heard K5F0 and about 4 or 5 other stations. Lousy propagation here today. The only loud station heard all day was on 14.058, and was digital. I had fun, and I will always remember the bloody New England contest of the fall of 96. See you from NM or Nev. in QRP to the Field. 72, Doug, KI6DS

Thanks to the New England group for a great contest. It was fun and I did get to go out to the field and operate, which is always a fun time. Thanks guys.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: wb2vuo@juno.com (William K Hibbert)  
Subject: [310] QRP Afield, sort of...  
Message-ID: <19960922.195940.4719.0.wb2vuo@juno.com>

Unfortunately, there were conflicting schedules with the second weekend of the 10 GHz & Up test (ARRL) and QRP Afield. The 10 GHz Test won, HOWEVER...

This is REAL QRP !!!

The maximum power any of the local participants ran was 250 mW, and the 'average' power was 15 mW. I ran 15 mW (an MA/Comm Gunnplexer) on WBFM (75 KHz deviation), centered on 10.250 GHz. I also, for the first time

this year, ran 20 mW on 24.145 GHz. Yes, that's Giga-Hertz, or X & K band. (Yes, the K-Band unit sets off 'Fuzzbusters' very nicely...)

The 'locals' were ops from WNY and Ontario. I worked the following, listed by call & best "DX":

WB2ELB - FN02pq to FN03lc (54 Km) on both X- and K-band)  
VE3SMA - FN02oq to FN03ib (58 Km) on X-band, and FN02lx (1 Km) on K-band  
VE3MNA - Same as VE3SMA  
VE3OIK - Sam as SMA/MNA on X-band, no K-band gear

The best "DX" in Miles/Watt was 2403 Miles/Watt. Antennas were 17 dBi horns, and 50 cm dishes, calculated at 31 dBi. "Feedline" was WR-90 waveguide.

I ran in QRP Afield in April, and got snowed out of the park. This time the WX would have been perfect, but I had committed myself to the 10 GHz Test.

Overall, in the 4 days of operation in August and September, I made 34 QSO's with 11 stations over a total DX of 1928 Km, with the best "DX", in the first weekend, of 99 Km (FN02hi to EN92ur). That one was 4102 Miles/Watt, not bad for an oscillating diode on Wide-Band FM !!

I am working on some QRP VHF gear for rovers, and will post any successful projects as they show up...

72/73, Keith, WB2VUO, QRP-L #582  
Trustee, KB2YTW/B 10 Meter Beacon (28.2860 MHz)  
"In the Depths of the Great Bergen Swamp...FN13ac"

wb2vuo@juno.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: kd7s@psnw.com (Bill Jones)  
Subject: [300] QRP Ahome (couldn't get to the field)  
Message-ID: <199609221710.KAA01738@sierra.psnw.com>

Like so many others, I wasn't able to make it to the field but wanted to exercise my 40-9er for a few minutes anyhow. I spent less than one hour on the air but managed five contacts in Arizona, Utah, Oregon and Washington with 750 mW output from my central California QTH. Worked W9UQB, AA7QY, WJ7H, WB6LMA and K07I. Thanks to these gentlemen (and the NE-QRP club) for making my day a little brighter.

On another note, I got a bag of parts from Dan's Saturday and construction

has begun on my NE 40-40 (SW-40?) which will be the electronics part of my entry into the Adventure Radio Society "TFR Challenge."

=====

Bill Jones - KD7S <><  
Sanger, California  
Reply to kd7s@psnw.com

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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: "Thomas J. Whalen" <whalen@swcp.com>  
Subject: [315] QRP- AFIELD  
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.3.91.960922194245.11395A-100000@kitsune.swcp.com>

My son Andrew(ab5dx) and I took off for the foothills of Albuquerque at about 1300 hrs. Kite,battery,wire and IC-706 in hand we set off to put a dent in ionosphere!Got set up at 1330 and decided to try to put up a 132' wire held up by my new kite. Flew great for a little bit then lost the wind, so just tied ant. to a tree about 10 ft. up in the air. Worked pretty well running to the tree, but didnt hold a candle to the wire and kite combo. We made about 25 contacts and really had a good time. 20 meters was really great, but did anyone hear the lid sending the continuous group of dots? He was very irritating. Getting back to the kite, alot of people hike up in this area and I think they wondered why there were two strings for one kite!!Got some strange looks! Learned one thing,when you fly kite antennas, you need two people, one to operate and one to fly the kite! 72 Tom WB5QYT

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: AE0Q / V31RY <v31ry@ix.netcom.com>  
Subject: [285] QRP-Afield  
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960922000206.0aefbef0@popd.ix.netcom.com>

Well, Brian N0TBM and I were on the road north to Wyoming at 0300 Sat morning for the NE-QRP contest. It turned out to be a little too early, it was still pitch-dark when we got to where we thought we had operated in the QRP-To-The Field in April, so we kept going west and up in altitude, following a paved road through the hills.

The Medicine Bow National Forest covers a hilly part of country east of Laramie, WY, and when it got light we were 4 miles down a dirt road, on a hill with some 40ft trees. Got the Carolina Windom (full size) up an hour before the contest started, and Europe was coming in on 20 meters.

The rig was a TS-450s, MFJ-949E tuner, Oak Hills QRP Wattmeter, CMOS-III keyer and laptop running LOGic-4 for logging. We kept the radio set to just below 1w output, for the low-power QSO points.

This was the first time I've tried running less than 5 watts in a contest, and it sure makes a difference.. Calling CQ wasn't very effective in the middle of the day, so it was mostly search-and-pounce on 20m. We worked a couple of stations on 40m, but it was terribly noisy.

After 5 hours 20m seemed to clear out, most of the Clover and Pactor stations on 14.061 shut down. I tried calling CQ again, and worked a string of 12 stations! Sure wish that could have happened a few hours earlier!

Our totals are:   41 stations worked       (38 on 20m, 3 on 40m)  
                  18 states, 1 province  
(less than 1w output) total score: 6,232 points

It was a great day to be out in the woods, enjoying nice fall WX and some fun hamming, too.. These weekends don't seem to happen often enough, do they?!

73 -- Glenn

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Duct Tape is like the Force: It has a light side, and a dark side,  
and it holds the Universe together.

AE0Q / V31RY                   ex: GM5BKC, ZB2WZ, SV0WY, WA0VPK  
v31ry@ix.netcom.com       -- ARRL LM, QCWA LM, NCVA --

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE)  
Subject: [309] QRP-AFIELD 96  
Message-ID: <199609222143.RAA40131@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

Hello Gang,

Did anyone else notice the aurora on 20 meters? Darn'd if it didn't sound like some of you were under water. Here in NH, 20 got noisy as the afternoon wore on.

I did my usual hunt and pounce for a while and didn't find a whole lot of folks calling CQ. So what the heck, I tried calling CQ myself. I was using my home station due to some surgery about 2 months ago. My stamina is minimal. I just couldn't get up to the tower on the mountain .

I love contesting to build up my code skill, but I never have run a pile up or run stations before. Well I did it this time, and I'm glad I did. I won't



be so shy about that next time. I had to move frequencies a couple of times when the signals got to be too much for this first timer. 27 contacts and 20 states later I quit at 18:00 local time.

I picked up Montana for a needed state for WAS-QRP. I need RI, and NV to finish the job. I hope to do that by year's end.

I love hearing from all those folks that actually did get into the field. God willing I'll be there next year.

73 de AA1IK

Ernie

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Dick Slavens <aero@napanet.net>  
Subject: [286] R/C Aircraft on 6 M.  
Message-ID: <3244E500.5989@napanet.net>

I'd like to contact someone who is using 6 M (50.8-51.0 Mhz) for control of model aircraft. I'm getting ready to order a radio and had a few questions.

Please, send E-mail directly to me to keep the list traffic down.

tnx es 73,

Dick WA6TMF Napa, CA aero@napanet.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: wylde@nccn.net (Grover Cleveland WT6P)  
Subject: [297] Too many radios - some for sale.  
Message-ID: <v02130503ae6b0fe419e3@[205.139.74.190]>

I know that there can never be such a thing as "too many radios" (right Jim Cates?) but there can be "too little room" or "severe lust for a Sierra."

Therefore I am selling:

1) original Norcal 40 with screened panel. Very clean. \$75 shipped in U.S.

2) Icom 211 allmode 2 meter rig - great for qrp satellite work on the RS birds - \$250 + shipping. (or trade for Sierra)

3) RF Concepts two-meter amplifier for h-t. 2w in gives 30w out. Has onboard preamp, ssb/fm switch, manual. This is mint. \$75 shipped in U.S.

E-mail to me directly or call 916 478-3153 (weekdays, leave a message)

thanks and happy qrp'ing

Grover

- - -

P. Grover Cleveland WT6P / QRPARCI 3795 / ARS 101 / Norcal 216 / QRP-L #669  
Sr. Engineer - Tektronix/Grass Valley  
Archaeominiferroequinologist  
Fairmont Speeder Pilot  
Certified Steam Locomotive Driver  
Certifiably Loony

Can also be found at: cleveland@usa.net  
71213.2741@compuserve.com  
<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/gcleveland/me.htm>

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: PaulKB8N@aol.com  
Subject: [307] Varicaps, Rare Find  
Message-ID: <960922172102\_314906896@emout19.mail.aol.com>

Gang,

At the ARRL National Convention at Peoria, I stumbled onto a stock of brand new mini-varicaps that are perfect for QRP tuner projects. These are multi-section caps, so the sections can be paralleled for desired capacitance value. These are not the plastic type, but metal U frame construction. These are quality capacitors, with ball-bearing drive and 1/4" shaft.

The first type has four sections, two 2-20pf, one 6-100pf and one 8-200pf. Size is 1"x1"x1.5". They are \$3.00 ea, or 2 for \$5.

The second has three sections, one 5-170pf, one 5-100 pf. and one 10-210pf.

Size is 1"x1"x1.25". They are \$4.00 ea or 2 for \$7.

I also have three EF Johnson rotary inductors, model -201, max value of 18uH. These are usable at any power level, but are the perfect rotary inductor for a wide-range tuner. They are \$25.00 each .

Please include shipping for the above. I will include some instructions on building antenna tuners with your order.

I appreciate the opportunity to use the qrp forum to encourage homebrewing. The greatest joy I've had in ham radio has come from building something that has worked successfully, especially when built from scratch. Antenna tuners are among the easiest projects that one can build "from scratch". I am building up a significant stock of parts for antenna tuners, and hope to establish a web page in the future. Please contact me for any parts needs. I will continue to look for parts that I can pass along to the qrp community.

Look forward to hearing from you. Keep building!

Paul, KB8N

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: "J. Skalski" <jskalski@acsu.buffalo.edu>  
Subject: [299] WTB Ten Tec 515 manual  
Message-ID:  
<Pine.GS0.3.93.960922112606.24221A-100000@conciliator.acsu.buffalo.edu>

I don't want to sound like Andy Rooney but...Why is it that the manuals get separated from the rigs?

Has anyone used the SCAF filter through the TenTec Acc. socket?

I picked up the 515 at a hamfest this weekend. It looked great. I stood behind another ham. He offered the seller \$100. The seller said he would come down to \$125. I patiently waited looking at the seller's face ...then the prospective buyer...then back to the seller. It was a standoff.

The buyer now turns and walks away. I stepped up to the table, drying the corner of my mouth with my hand. I didn't want to appear too anxious. (like the hungry dog when the bell goes off)  
I offered him his asking price of \$125. He is happy and I am happy.

He said it only puts out five watts. I told him that's plenty.  
So you don't always have to be the " first" to see a rig for sale.

Does anyone know how many of these things were made by Ten Tec?

73,

Jim N2GO  
The Buffalo QRP CONNECTION  
ARCI #9013 QRP-L #381  
jskalski@acsu.Buffalo.EDU

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: "Floyd Soo, KF8AT" <hires@rust.net>  
Subject: [295] [Fwd: Will you children PLEASE STOP! (an off-subject post)]  
Message-ID: <3245739A.712C@rust.net>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----19F8741E320F  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

ditto

Floyd, KF8AT  
QRP-L #392

-----19F8741E320F  
Content-Type: message/rfc822  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Disposition: inline

Received: from fidoui.CC.Lehigh.EDU (fidoui.CC.Lehigh.EDU [128.180.1.4]) by Fe3.rust.net (8.7.5/8.7.3) with ESMTP id LAA18064 for <hires@rust.net>; Sat, 21 Sep 1996 11:16:52 -0400 (EDT)  
Received: from Lehigh.EDU ([127.0.0.1]) by fidoui.cc.lehigh.edu with SMTP id <35089-36505>; Sat, 21 Sep 1996 11:16:08 -0400  
Received: from nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU ([128.180.1.26]) by fidoui.cc.lehigh.edu with ESMTP id <35009-23962>; Sat, 21 Sep 1996 11:15:27 -0400  
Received: from dfw-ix6.ix.netcom.com (dfw-ix6.ix.netcom.com [206.214.98.6]) by nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU (8.7.5/8.7.3) with SMTP id LAA65900 for <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>; Sat, 21 Sep 1996 11:15:20 -0400  
Received: from lncdw544 (gra-mi3-07.ix.netcom.com [199.183.212.103]) by dfw-

ix6.ix.netcom.com (8.6.13/8.6.12) with SMTP id IAA05432 for <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>;  
Sat, 21 Sep 1996 08:14:47 -0700  
Message-Id: <1.5.4.32.19960921151513.0081742c@popd.ix.netcom.com>  
From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: n5zgt@swcp.com (Brian Mileschosky)  
Subject: [301] Re: "QRP AField" from "Towah, New Mexico".  
Message-ID: <199609221719.LAA18913@kitsune.swcp.com>

> BTW, Brian is the New Youth Column Writer for "Worldradio", so watch for  
his first column, Jan., '97.

Hello Everybody,

A small correction...my first article comes out in the November issue of  
Worldradio, so pick up a copy and let me know if you like it! ;)  
(Also...I'm always looking for subjects to write on that will interested  
youth Hams. If you have some, pass them along!)

Well, this past weekend was great! I was a little miserable because of  
being sick for over a week now. I'm looking foward to getting better! The  
contest was great. I worked around 12 or 13 stations with a stuffy nose,  
headache and that stupid "itch" you get in the back of your throat that  
makes you do nothing but cough. However, I had a GREAT timethis weekend.

Many thanks to Jay (WA5WHN), Gary (K8BI) Paul (NA5N), Tim (AB5OU), Wynn  
(KC5DT) and Jay, his YL for making the weekend a fun one! And thanks to the  
New England QRP Club as well as Chet (AA1EX), and of course everybody who  
participated to make this contest a success. Looking foward to the next one!

72, Brian, N5ZGT (Sickly....)

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Boy Scouts of America	Amateur Radio - N5ZGT
Eagle Scout - 1996	ARRL QRP: NorCal# 1700 QRP-L# 580
JASM - Troop 41	Author of Worldradio's "Youth Forum" Column
Albuquerque, N.M.	Packet: N5ZGT @ KC5IZT.ALBQ.NM.USA.NA
O.A. Lodge 66 <-W-W-W-<<	Internet: n5zgt@swcp.com

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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@avana.net>  
Subject: [288] Re: Impedance Bubbles  
Message-ID: <3244EC28.31C@avana.net>

Hi Bruce... I think I'd try it and see. Alpha uses an RCA jack on the Alpha 78 as  
an input, and Collins used a

ceramic one on the input of the 30L1. On my Alpha I find it touchy-for no discernable reason (maybe I did a poor job on the cable. If you are looking for a size thing, use a single hole mount BNC. They are MUCH BETTER connectors than people give them credit for being-I had a friend/EE Professor who ran a bunch of tests on a network analyzer at Grumman in the 70s and swore PROPERLY MADE BNCs beat EVERYTHING-including type N's for impedance flatness way past 1 GHz-probably to 10 (I forget for certain-but that's what I recall.) Then, also, there are many SMA connectors available at hamfests... or even new (\$20/gold connector but you're only building one rig and could use a 5 or 10 foot long SMA-to-PL259 adapter for multiple antennas.)

Personally I'd use the BNC and put BNCs on your antenna cables if indeed it is size you're wanting to minimize. They're easier to use and more readily available. But NO twist-on junk, and only use crimp types if you have the crimper.

Hope this helps. 73

--

Ed Tanton N4XY (770) 971-0436 Marietta, GA  
email: n4xy@avana.net URL: Coming Soon

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Bob Edwards <rbe@atlanta.com>  
Subject: [290] Re: Impedance Bubbles  
Message-ID: <32455318.6A81@atlanta.com>

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----504544644441  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bruce Barley wrote:

>  
>.....how much of an impedance bubble is presented to a 50 ohm coax  
> by using a standard RCA type connector ....is this bubble going to  
> cause a loss of output signal sufficient to be a concern?

A non-scientific answer : no, the bubble didn't stop a QSO from nr Atlanta to Western Australia (VK6WT cofirmed) using the 30 mtr 3 watt Techsonic

Milliwater transmitter, Kenwood R-1000, and a Delta loop in some tall Georgia pines . This little homebrew VXO transmitter uses standard RCA type phono connectors for both TX & RX. So they didn't hurt the signals much.

Also, about 2/3 my WAS confirmations came from that fun little rig.

A more scientific answer, I did measure the capacitance, after the fact, of a connector. It was 4 or 5 pf, as I recall, so the output circuit was not upset much. In fact the tolerances on most output circuit components are an several times worse.

GL & 73/72 Bob

-----504544644441  
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii  
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit  
Content-Disposition: inline; filename="FOOTER.TXT"

+-----+  
| Bob, AE4CA, WAS-5W | ..... "QRP", more from less....  
+-----+  
ARCII-8760, MIQRP-1410, COQRP-118, QRPL-606, ARS-145, NorCAL  
  
-----504544644441--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: "Claton Cadmus" <aplitech@spacestar.com>  
Subject: [291] Re: Impedance Bubbles  
Message-ID: <199609221335.IAA25010@Spacestar.Net>

Bruce, KB0PDZ, wrote asking about RCA connectors for use in small rigs.

You will find that an RCA connect is just fine for you transmission line connectors in the HF region. Will they cause an impedance bump (I've never heard it called bubble), yes. But the bump is small and not of much consequence. The problems with RCA connectors is really mechanical. It can be difficult to properly attach the RCA plug to the coax cable and I have found they do not hold up well to repeated connects/disconnects.

If you have a choice, use BNC's they're pretty hard to beat and about the same size.

As for the output transistor. Keep in mind that the output transistor

really sees the input impedance of the "output filter" and the impedance is generally just a few ohms. The minor impedance bumps of connectors and pieces of cable will have no appreciable effect on the transistor.

Hope the Helps, and remember this secret to homebuilding success.

"Don't sweat the small stuff, just get the solder joints right!"

Hope this Helps,  
73 de Cla KA0GKC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: "Floyd Soo, KF8AT" <hires@rust.net>  
Subject: [296] Re: Impedance Bubbles  
Message-ID: <32457753.5E5@rust.net>

Bruce Barley wrote:

>  
> When building into small enclosures (Altoids, Tuna Tin II, etc.), how much  
> of an impedance bubble is presented to a 50 ohm coax by using a standard RCA  
> type connector in place of the much larger PL259/S0259 which as I understand  
> it, is designated a 50 ohm connector?  
>  
> AT QRPP power levels, is this bubble going to cause a loss of output signal  
> sufficient to be a concern? How about the PL259/RCA adaptor? Similar results?  
>  
> What is the output transistor going to see looking into this situation?  
> Frequently, there will be a very short piece of RG174 from the circuit board  
> to the RCA type connector and RG174 or other 50 ohm coax from that connector  
> to either a match box or straight to an antenna. Typically what would be  
> the most suitable type of equipment to check this out? Has anyone  
> previously checked? Or is this just a minor nitnoy?  
>  
> Bruce Barley KB0PZD ex:WD0HRQ  
> lbbarley@feist.com qpr-1 #69

Bruce,

Back in the 50s and 60s, Collins used the RCA phono connectors on most of their S/Line equipment. The KWM-2, 30S-1, 30L-1, 32S xmtrs, and 75S rcvrs all used RCA phonos for antenna connections. When they were tested by Collins, seems as though they were at least as good as the UHF connectors with respect to 50 ohms! Of course, the only exceptions to this were the amp high power outputs, which were N connectors.



Hope this is useful info!

72,  
Floyd, KF8AT  
QRP-L #392

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Cecil A Moore <Cecil\_A\_Moore@ccm.ch.intel.com>  
Subject: [303] Re: Open/Short SWR

>How about, with either an open or a short there will be substantial  
>R.F. on the coax shield. In this condition all SWR meter readings are  
>bogus, thus the possibility of an SWR of 1:1?? KE3FL/Phil

Hi Phil, make that, "thus the possibility of the SWR meter reading  
1:1 when the SWR is not 1:1". Someone else pointed out that 200ft  
of open circuit RG-58 at 440MHz will give an SWR very close to  
1:1 because of near 100% losses.

73, Cecil, W6RCA (not speaking for my employer)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: BOB KELLOGG <ae4ic@nr.infi.net>  
Subject: [311] Re: radio shack, fluke & KC-2  
Message-ID: <199609230112.VAA11931@mh004.infi.net>

Hi MIke,

At 09:06 PM 9/21/96 -0700, you wrote:

>Item two: Has anyone here tried the KC-2 unit from Wilderness Radio with an  
>NW8020, specifically an NW30?

I've installed my KC-2 temporarily to my NW40. There was not room for it on  
the front panel, If you have followed the typical panel layout. I have 4  
NW8020s, so I plan to install the wiring to a db15 connector on the rear  
panel and put the KC-2 in a separate little box made of circuit board  
material. There will be about 15" of cable between. Then I can use one  
KC-2 with several NW8020 rigs, and keep the same front panel configuration.

The KC-2 works with the NW8020, if that's your concern.

CUL,  
Bob Kellogg, AE4IC

Prolably, but not nececelery. - Benny Hill

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: Jim Dolson <dolsonj@ix.netcom.com>  
Subject: Will you children PLEASE STOP! (an off-subject post)

When I first subscribed to this list a few months ago, about 20% of the topics were not QRP. About 20% of the topics still are not QRP. That hasn't changed, but something else has.

What has changed is that some people, instead of ignoring the stuff they don't think is appropriate, insist on demeaning the person who sent it (most recently, the post on learning CW) and doing so in a public post to the entire list. I'M SICK OF IT! I get enough petty bickering at work - I don't want it or need it here. This list has always been a place of refuge in the midst of a crazy world but it is becoming no better than the agravating world that I try to flee from when I put my soldering iron in hand or check out the scoop on the qrp list.

PLEASE! If you have a problem with a post, reply directly to the person making the post, not to the list. I (and I suspect most people) simply don't want to hear it anymore.

73's  
Jim  
WB8ZBD

p.s. if you have a problem with my post, please reply to  
dolsonj@ix.netcom.com, not qrp-1@Lehigh.edu.

-----19F8741E320F--

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Sun Sep 22 23:12:57 1996  
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>  
Subject: [316] Re: WTB Ten Tec 515 manual  
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960922223509.16533A-100000@vela.acs.oakland.edu>

On Sun, 22 Sep 1996, J. Skalski wrote:

> I picked up the 515 at a hamfest this weekend. It looked great.

Oh boy... here it comes...

> I stood behind another ham. He offered the seller \$100. The seller said he  
> would come down to \$125. I patiently waited looking at the seller's face  
> ...then the prospective buyer...then back to the seller. It was a  
> standoff.

Incredible

> The buyer now turns and walks away.

Fool

> I stepped up to the table, drying the corner of my mouth with my hand.  
> I didn't want to appear too anxious. (like the hungry dog when the bell  
> goes off)

That's "Pavlov's Dog" to those of you who paid attention in college.

> I offered him his asking price of \$125. He is happy and I am happy.

Understatement of the year?

> He said it only puts out five watts. I told him that's plenty.

Ahhhh! He didn't know what he had!

> So you don't always have to be the " first" to see a rig for sale.

That rig wasn't a sale, it was a consensual theft.

> Does anyone know how many of these things were made by Ten Tec?

About 800. Probably the most sought after QRP rig in the world. Typical  
sale price \$350~\$600 (I paid \$375 for mine).

Congrats, I hope you toss a couple extra bucks in the plate next Sunday,  
God was smiling on you! :-)

73 =paul= wb8zjl

> >

73,

>

> Jim N2G0  
> The Buffalo QRP CONNECTION  
> ARCI #9013 QRP-L #381  
> jskalski@acsu.Buffalo.EDU  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>